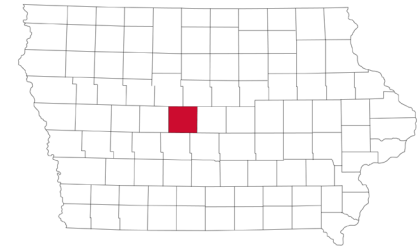


Boone County Agriculture

Value and Importance

Agriculture is important to the economic fabric of Boone County and Iowa. Boone County's 925 farms cover 332,048 acres of land, which accounts for 90 percent of the surface land in the county. Crop and livestock production are the visible parts of the agricultural economy, but many related businesses contribute as well by producing, processing and marketing farm and food products. These businesses generate income, employment and economic activity throughout the region.



Boone County farmers harvested 176,154 acres of corn and 104,480 acres of soybeans, and produced 61,266 hogs and 18,433 head of cattle in 2007. Farms on average are larger in Boone County, at 359 acres, than the statewide average of 311 acres. Sales per farm in Boone County were \$188,286 in 2007.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY University Extension

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Economic analysis drawn from material available at:
<http://www.econ.iastate.edu/outreach/agriculture/agri-food/>
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... and justice for all

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Farm Characteristics		
	Boone Co.	Iowa
Farms	925	92,856
Farmland (acres)	332,048	30,747,550
Average acres per farm	359	331
Median size farm (acres)	107	151
Market value of land/buildings (avg. per farm)	1,348,605	\$1,112,023
Market value of mach./equipment (avg. per farm)	148,616	\$136,771
Sales per farm	\$188,286	\$219,890
Total land area	367,048	36,013,737
Percent of land in farms	90%	85%

Corn and Soybean Crops

Cropland generates the largest portion of farm sales in Boone County. In 2007, Boone County farmers harvested 30.4 million bushels of corn and 5.4 million bushels of beans. Production of all crops in Boone County contributed \$166.10 million or 9.6 percent of the county’s total economic output.



Crops and Cropland				
	Boone Co.		Iowa	
	Corn	Soybeans	Corn	Soybeans
Acres harvested	176,154	104,480	13,842,282	8,612,810
Bushels harvested (millions)	30.4	5.4	2,292.2	430.7
Output of all crops (millions)	\$166.10		\$10,359.3	
Market value of all crops	9.6%		3.9%	

Livestock Impacts in Boone County

Livestock production generates the greatest portion of farm sales in Boone County. The value of livestock marketed by Boone County farmers totaled \$36.30 million in 2007, and includes the value of production inputs. This accounts for 2.1 percent of the county’s total economic output. Livestock sales are no longer broken out by category (hogs or cattle) for all counties, but the 16,537 head of cattle sold and 160,832 hogs sold give some idea of the size of these two sectors.



Livestock			
		Boone Co.	Iowa
Hogs and pigs	Inventory	61,266	19,295,092
	Sold	160,832	47,279,443
Cattle	Inventory	18,433	3,982,344
	Sold	16,537	3,635,880
Total livestock value (millions)		\$36.30	\$5,754.1
Livestock value as percent of total economic output		2.1%	2.1%

Agriculture and the Environment

Boone County farmers own and manage the resources on 332,048 acres of land, 90 percent of all land in the county. This includes cropland, pastures and trees. Farmers use various conservation practices to protect environmental resources and provide habitat for wildlife.



Agriculture and the Economy

Boone County agriculture provides 1,331 jobs representing 9.9 percent of Boone County’s total workforce of 13,453; Iowa’s statewide average is 16.5 percent. These ag-related jobs include farm owners, farm laborers, crop and livestock consultants, veterinarians, feed suppliers, food processors, farm machinery operators and fertilizer manufacturers. The largest portion of the ag-related jobs are involved directly in agricultural production (1,235 of the 1,331).

The total value of Boone County’s agricultural production (locally produced agricultural goods) was \$202.50 million. The output value of agri-food processing and other ag-related manufacturing is \$24.50 million. If we add the production value of all non agri-food products used as inputs in Boone County’s agri-food industries (\$0.03 million), we find that all ag-related production, processing and input supplying activities in Boone County total to \$227.20 million. This is 13.1 percent of the county’s total industrial output. At the state level, 26.8 percent of total industrial output is directly or indirectly related to agriculture.

Economic Contributions				
	Boone Co.		Iowa	
	Output (millions)	Jobs	Output (millions)	Jobs
Crop and livestock production	\$202.50	1,235	\$16,113.4	108,517
Ag processing	\$24.50	89	\$46,634.1	185,812
Ag support	\$0.03	7	\$9,395.3	37,551
Total ag contribution	\$227.20	1,331	\$72,142.8	331,880
Ag activity as percent of total activity	13.10%	9.90%	26.8%	16.5%
Household consumption and non-ag production	\$1,511.50	12,122	\$196,934.7	1,677,546
Total economic activity	\$1,738.70	13,453	\$269,077.6	2,009,426